LIVE UPDATES

Israel’s war on Gaza live: Israel has no ‘credible plan’ for Rafah – US

This video may contain light patterns or images that could trigger seizures or cause discomfort for people with visual sensitivities.

By **Mersiha Gadzo**
12 May 2024

- US Secretary of State Blinken says Israel has no “credible plan” for protecting Rafah’s civilians during a full-scale invasion, and threatens to withhold arms from Israel if it proceeds.
- Egypt says it will formally join the lawsuit filed by South Africa against Israel at the International Court of Justice which accuses Israel of violating its obligations under the Genocide Convention in the Gaza Strip.
- Israeli military tanks have started to go deeper into the Jabalia refugee camp as part of a new offensive in northern Gaza, according to our correspondent. The offensive – which has forced thousands of Palestinians to flee – comes months after Israel declared Hamas had been “dismantled” in the area.
- The European Union condemns Israeli evacuation orders in eastern Rafah. Hundreds of thousands are once again forced to flee.
- At least 35,034 people have been killed and 78,755 wounded in Israeli attacks on Gaza since October 7. The revised death toll in Israel from Hamas’s October 7 attacks stands at 1,139 with dozens of people still held captive.

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93 Updates Auto updates

2m ago (22:20 GMT)

Palestinians injured in attacks by Israeli forces, settlers in occupied West Bank

Israeli settlers, who were protected by soldiers, attacked the town of Qusra south of Nablus in the occupied West Bank, the Wafa news agency reports citing local sources.

This came hours after settlers attacked the outskirts of the village of Duma, also south of Nablus, setting fire to one house and spraying walls with inflammatory slogans.

Wafa said that south of Bethlehem, a 50-year-old Palestinian woman suffered from fractures in her limbs after an attack by Israeli settlers.

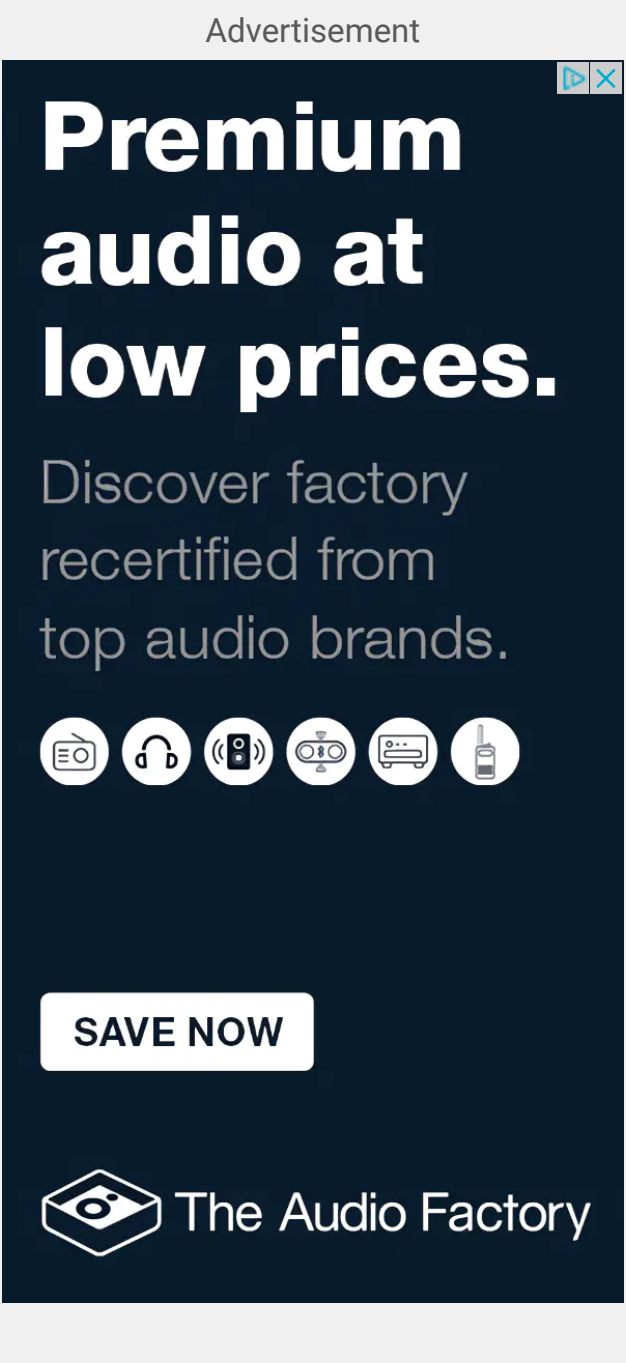
In the town of Azzun east of Qalqilya, a young Palestinian man was reportedly injured after being beaten by Israeli soldiers.

17m ago (22:05 GMT)

Israeli military claims allowing limited fuel into Gaza

Israeli military authorities say they have allowed in seven tankers carrying 266,000 litres (70,269 gallons)of fuel into Gaza today through the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing, which has remained mostly closed since last week.

This comes as the UN and international organisations are warning of urgently dwindling supplies – especially fuel – across the Gaza Strip as the Israeli military expands attacks in multiple areas of the enclave, including Zeitoun and Jabalia in the north and Rafah to the south.



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32m ago (21:50 GMT)

Cambridge college divests from all arms producing companies: Report

Trinity College Cambridge has opted to withdraw its investments from all arms manufacturers, the UK-based Middle East Eye (MEE) news outlet is reporting.

This development comes after MEE revealed in February that Cambridge’s wealthiest college had more than 61,735 pounds ($78,089) invested in Elbit Systems, Israel’s largest arms manufacturing entity that produces a significant number of drones for the Israeli military.

According to three sources who spoke to MEE, Trinity’s student union made the decision to divest from arms companies in early March.

College campuses around the world have exploded in recent weeks in protests by pro-Palestine students and faculty members against Israel’s war on Gaza, in which more than 34,000 people have been killed.

In university after university, protesters are demanding their schools sever any direct or indirect financial and academic links with Israel, including by divesting from companies with ties to Israel.

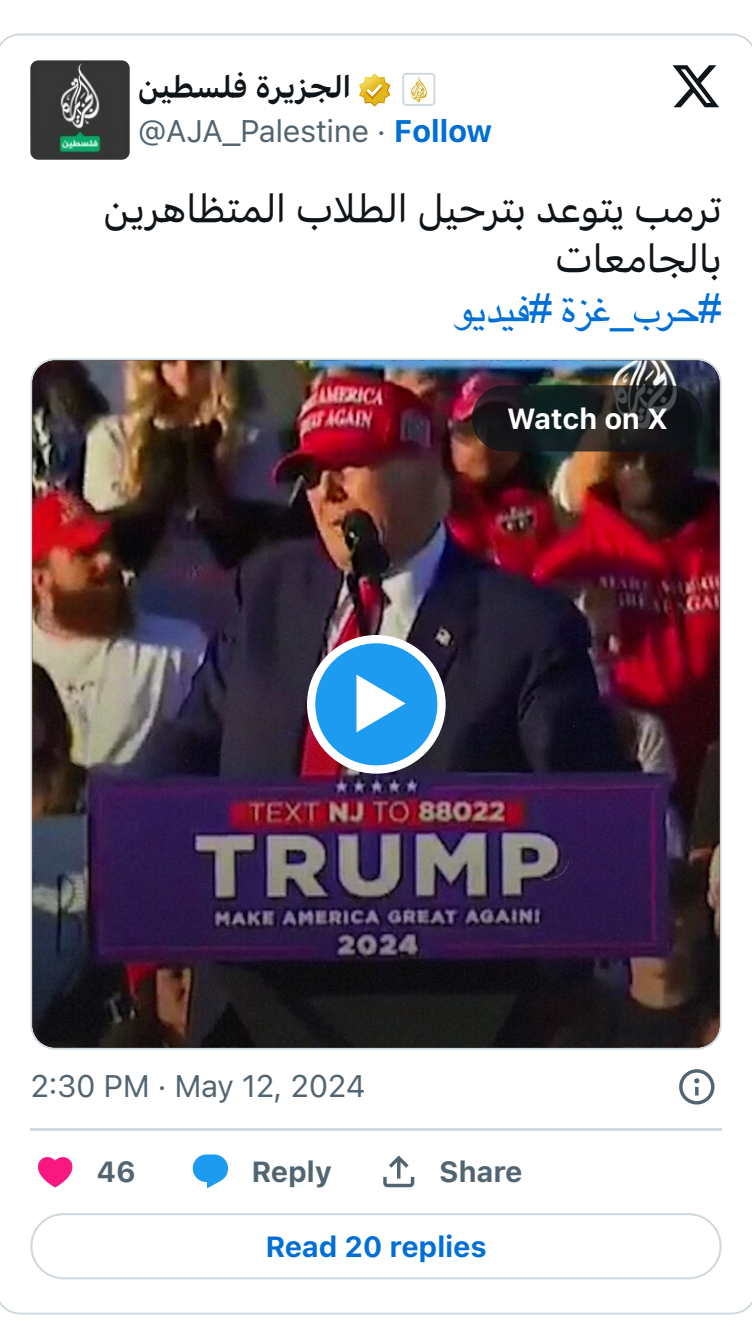
47m ago (21:35 GMT)

Donald Trump threatens to deport student protesters if elected president

Former US President Donald Trump says he will be more confrontational in dealing with students demonstrating on university campuses against Israel’s war in Gaza and for their schools to divest from Israel.

“When I’m president, we will not allow our colleges to be taken over by violent radicals,” Trump told supporters at a campaign rally in New Jersey. He is running again in November’s presidential election.

“And if you come here from another country, trying to bring jihadism or anti-Americanism or anti-Semitism to our campuses, we will immediately deport you. You will be out of that soon.”



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ترمب يتوعد بترحيل الطلاب المتظاهرين بالجامعات
#حرب_غزة #فيديو

2:30 PM · May 12, 2024

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Translation: Trump threatens to deport students protesting at universities.

1h ago (21:20 GMT)

Israeli military says it attacks Hezbollah rocket launch sites

The army says its fighter jets have struck two areas from which Hezbollah had launched rockets at northern Israel. The sites in southern Lebanon’s Halta and Kfar Hamam have been hit in the past few hours, it says.

The Israeli military added that two more sites were hit in the Kherbe area and launches coming from Lebanon inflicted no casualties.

1h ago (21:05 GMT)

ANALYSIS

What is happening in Gaza is a ‘turkey shoot’: UN special rapporteur

UN Special Rapporteur Balakrishnan Rajagopal says what is happening in Gaza – the Israeli army forcing the population to move from one place to another – is a form of ethnic cleansing “with eventually, I suppose, the goal of not allowing them to live in a normal way”.

“This is a matter of great concern because it is a very grave war crime under international law, particularly given Israel’s status as an occupying power,” he told Al Jazeera.

Balakrishnan said the destruction of vast amounts of infrastructure and housing in Gaza by the Israeli army constitutes a “domicide”.

“What we have seen in the case of Gaza is clearly a case of domicide and constitutes an act of genocide as well because the purpose of that destruction, exceeding 70 to 80 percent across Gaza, is to make the place uninhabitable for the people of Gaza,” he added.

“The way I see it, it’s like a form of what in America we call a ‘turkey shoot’. They are just doing target practice on the people of Gaza. To me, there’s nothing that resembles this in any other conflict in the world.”

1h ago (20:50 GMT)

AUB faculty demand withdrawal of Columbia University president’s honorary doctorate

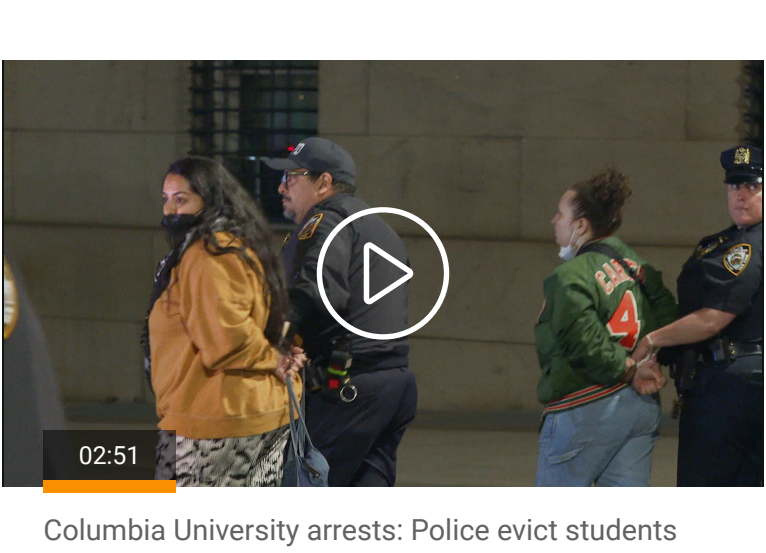
American University of Beirut Faculty United, an independent association of faculty members, has released a statement calling for the revocation of Nemat “Minouche” Shafik’s 2018 honorary doctorate over “egregious dereliction of her duties as a scholar and a university servant”.

The association said Shafik took the unilateral decision to “violate the academic freedom of students, staff and faculty by declaring their peaceful protests against Israel’s genocidal war in Gaza a ‘clear and present danger’ and calling in the New York police to violently suppress their protests”.

The embattled president has faced an outcry from many students, faculty and outside observers for summoning New York police to dismantle a tent encampment set up on campus by students protesting against Israel’s war on Gaza.

More than 200 faculty signed the letter addressed to the AUB administration and called her actions “brutal and cowardly”.

“President Shafik has displayed craven absence of moral integrity and blatantly contradicted AUB’s mission, values, and ideals that are the basis for granting an honorary doctorate,” the letter said.



Columbia University arrests: Police evict students occupying campus hall

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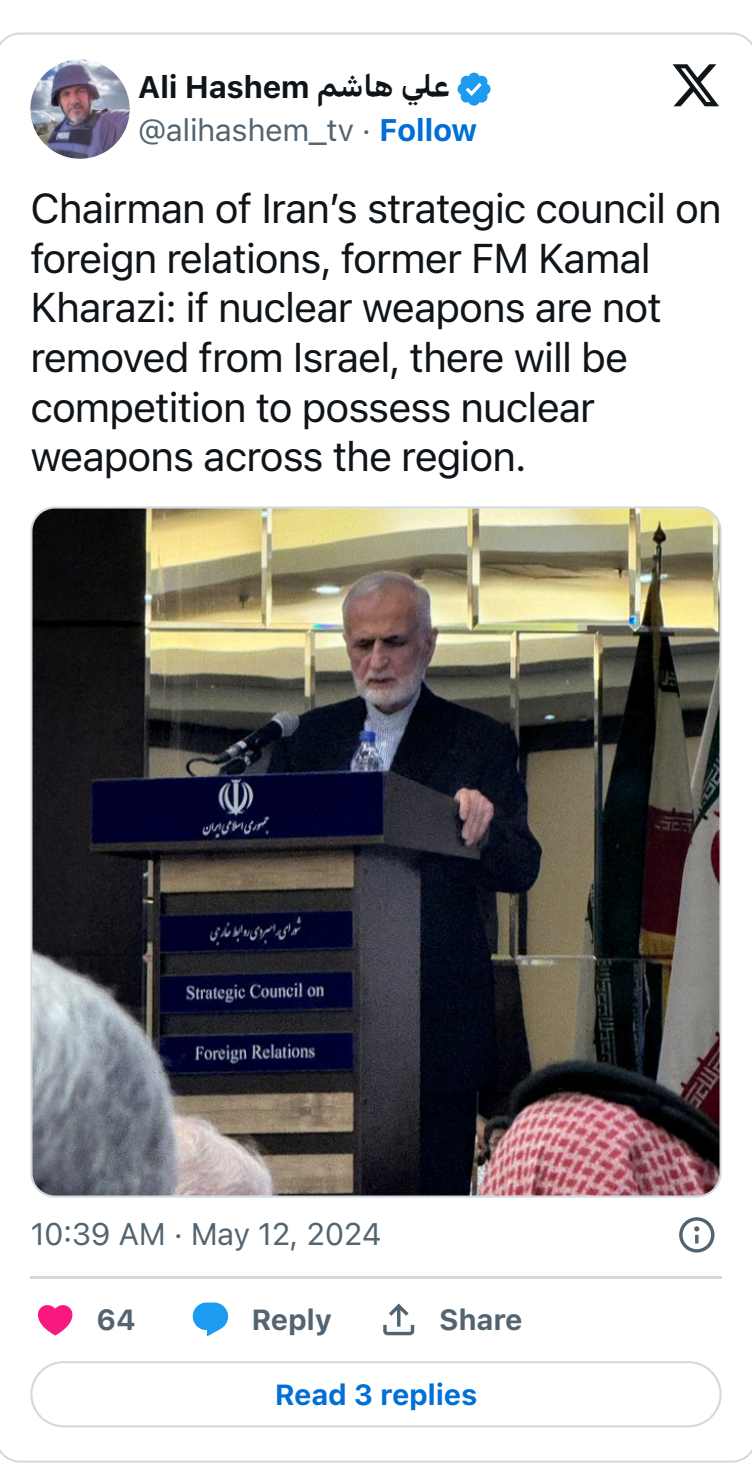
Leaving Israel a nuclear state could lead to regional arms race: Iran

Top Iranian foreign policy officials have told an Iranian-Arab dialogue forum in Tehran that the only way to a Middle East without nuclear weapons is to disarm Israel.

“We want a region with no nuclear weapons,” Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian said.

Kamal Kharrazi, an adviser to Iran’s supreme leader, presented Iran’s solution towards that vision and warned of consequences of not realising it.

“This is the solution: Israel is the only country [in the region] to possess nuclear arms, so it must be disarmed. If it is not, a region without nuclear weapons will not be realised and there will be a nuclear race,” said Kharrazi, who said this week that Iran may change its policy of refraining from pursuing a weapon if existentially threatened.



Ali Hashem علي هاشم
@alihashem_tv · Follow

Chairman of Iran’s strategic council on foreign relations, former FM Kamal Kharazi: if nuclear weapons are not removed from Israel, there will be competition to possess nuclear weapons across the region.

10:39 AM · May 12, 2024

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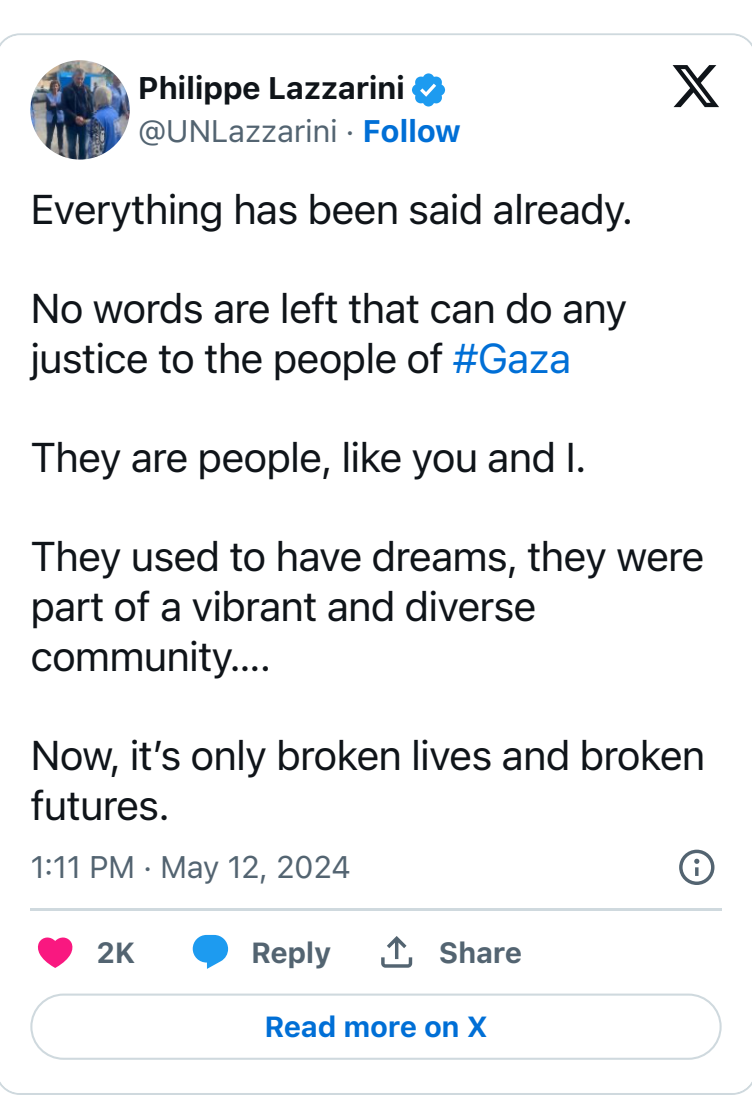
2h ago (20:20 GMT)

‘Only broken lives and broken futures’ in Gaza: UNRWA boss

Philippe Lazzarini, the head of the UN’s agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), is making another plea to stop the killing of Palestinians as the Israeli military continues its ground offensives in Gaza’s cities and its bombing of civilians from the air.

“No words are left that can do any justice to the people of Gaza,” he wrote in a post on X.

“They are people, like you and I. They used to have dreams, they were part of a vibrant and diverse community. … Now, it’s only broken lives and broken futures.”



Philippe Lazzarini
@UNLazzarini · Follow

Everything has been said already.

No words are left that can do any justice to the people of #Gaza

They are people, like you and I.

They used to have dreams, they were part of a vibrant and diverse community….

Now, it’s only broken lives and broken futures.

1:11 PM · May 12, 2024

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2h ago (20:05 GMT)

Erdogan says US, Europe not doing enough to pressure Israel into Gaza truce

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan says the US and Europe are not doing enough to pressure Israel to agree a ceasefire in Gaza after Hamas accepted a truce proposal last week.

Speaking to Muslim scholars in Istanbul, Erdogan said Hamas had accepted a proposal from Qatar and Egypt in a “step on the path towards a lasting ceasefire” but Netanyahu’s government did not want the war to end.

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